



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of County Transportation

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Bob Riley
Governor

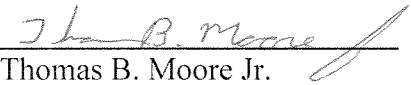
Joe McInnes
Transportation Director

April 11, 2006

MEMORANDUM 2006 – 17

TO: All County Engineers and
Division County Transportation Engineers

FROM: John F. Courson
County Transportation Engineer

By: 
Thomas B. Moore Jr.
Design and Plans Engineer

RE: **GFO 3-21 (Precast & Cast-In-Place Culverts)**

Based on revised **Guidelines For Operation, Section 3-21** (copy attached), precast culvert alternates must be permitted at all culvert sites unless exclusion approval is granted by the Chief Engineer's office. Specifics for exclusion of a precast alternate are noted and must be documented in the approval request. Mr. Tom Flournoy, Bridge Hydraulics Engineer, will be responsible for submitting all exclusion approval requests when the Bridge Bureau conducts the hydraulic site inspection. The County/Consultant will be responsible for the approval request for any hydraulic site inspections conducted by a consultant.

You may contact this office if you have any questions regarding this policy change.

JFC:TBM:wnk

Attachment

Pc: Mr. William F. Conway
Mr. Terry McDuffie
File

STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
GUIDELINES FOR OPERATION

SUBJECT: PRECAST AND CAST-IN-PLACE BOX CULVERT ALTERNATES

Alternate designs for precast box culverts will be offered for all sites with the following requirements:

1. Bridge size culverts – Alternates for precast culverts will be permitted. Precast culverts may be excluded if after the site inspection by the Bridge Bureau it is determined using precast will be undesirable. A letter of justification for exclusion of the precise alternate will be required for approval by the Chief Engineer's Office.
2. For culverts less than bridge size – A precast alternate will be permitted. The designer may exclude the precast alternate if, at the plan in hand inspection, the precast alternate is deemed to be undesirable. A letter to exclude the alternate must be prepared and approved by the Chief Engineer's Office.
3. The exclusion of the precast alternate approval letter must document and show it undesirable based on the following considerations:
 - a. Soil erodability
 - b. Stream bed slope
 - c. Water velocity
 - d. Culvert skew
 - e. Fill height
 - f. Size opening required
 - g. Availability
4. Precast culverts may be designated when traffic handling situations might govern.

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL: Steven E. Walker
BUREAU CHIEF / DIVISION ENGINEER

APPROVAL: NEW Vaughan
CHIEF ENGINEER

APPROVAL: DOM [Signature]
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

3/31/06
DATE